

Offertory: “Good Shepherd” G. Walker

Doxology UMH #94

***Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

Gracious and Loving God, Creator of all things, Shepherd of us all, we ask for your divine blessing upon these gifts. Bless these gifts and the givers, and may this offering be used for your purposes. In the Spirit of Christ we pray. **Amen.**

***Hymn:** “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” UMH# 381

Benediction

Postlude: “Toccata in E Minor” J. Pachelbel

We thank those who participated in today’s service:

Accompanist: Steve Hays

Acolytes: Sam Crawford, Aisla and Levi Varnon

Altar Flowers: In memory of James A. M, from Jim & Diane M

Altar Ministry: Shonali Bhajjan

Carillonneur: Thomas St. Marie

Fellowship Hour: Stewardship & Finance Committee and volunteers

Liturgist: David Snyder

Ushers: Head Usher, Lisa Bakowski, Asst. Head Usher; Sheila Womble; Rita Auchy, Holly Blair, Ray Miller, Ruth Stroshine

Video Team: Nicole Baker, Brian Crawford, Jack Rust, Anthony and Nicholas Skridulas

Please Pray for:

Mary A, Lisa B, Borys B, Jeannette B, Pat B, James B, Meri B, Margaret (Peg) C, Mary C, Benard D, Greg D, Dominick E, Jo Anne E, Lisa F, Mary (T) G, Courtney H, Aurie I, Blair J, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, Gavin M, Jan M, Holly Joy P, , Daryl P, Claire (L) P, Catherine Ann R, Henry (Bing) S, the S family, Jane S, Brenda S, Lynn T, Robert U, Tina W, Alison (Allie) W, our service members and their loved ones, those affected by gun violence and natural disasters.

Trinity United Methodist Church

361 Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA 01108

www.trinityspringfield.org ▪ 413-737-5311

Bishop, Peggy A. Johnson

District Superintendent, Rev. Megan Stowe

Minister, Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Michael Carney

Director of Family Ministries & Connections, Rob Powell

Spiritual Director, Cathy MacGovern



Believing that all persons are created in God's image and are of sacred worth, that Jesus' message was one of inclusion of those rejected by mainstream society, and that each member makes inherent and valuable contributions to the Body of Christ, we of Trinity Church welcome into this congregation people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic condition, family structure, and physical or mental ability.



Celebrate God's love

Nurture relationships with God and one another

Serve our community and world, as we share the light of Christ

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

10:30 a.m.

WELCOME

*We worship using the liturgy printed in your bulletin and two songbooks: The United Methodist Hymnal (UMH) and The Faith We Sing (TFWS). Please silence electronic devices before the service. Nursery care is downstairs for children birth - 4 years. *Please stand in body or in spirit. Items in bold are read in unison.*

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE FOR A TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

“God is not a celestial prison warden jangling the keys on a bunch of lifers.--God is a shepherd seeking lost sheep. A woman searching for coins, a father waiting for his son.” – Clarence Jordan

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “Offertory” A. Guilmant

Moment of Reflection

Introit: “God is my Rock” A. Pote

*Call to Worship: - Ministry Matters Resources

Leader: What a joy it is to welcome you this day!

People: We are grateful and happy to be here.

L: Christ, the Good Shepherd, invites you to walk with him.

P: We accept that invitation, confident in his guidance.

L: Be ready to serve the Lord in all that you do, for his love has been poured upon you.

P: Open our hearts and spirits this day, Lord, to receive your holy words and to be challenged in our service to you. Amen.

*Hymn: “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” (vv. 1-4) UMH# 57

*Unison Prayer of Confession: – Bread For The Journey

Gentle Shepherd, You guide us in the right paths, You lead us in the ways of righteousness, but we have allowed our anger, our rage, our greed, and at times even hate, to direct our paths. We have overreacted, we have taken more than our share, we have despised others that seem to have it all. Forgive us, God, for not following Your ways. Forgive us for not remembering that we are Your sheep, and You are our Shepherd. Forgive us when we have not listened for Your voice and instead have acted in the ways of the world. Guide us back to Your path, to loving You and loving our neighbors. Help us to unclench our fists and lend out our hands in hope and healing, forgiveness and love. In the name of Christ our Shepherd we pray. Amen.

*Words of Assurance: – Worship Resources

In the midst of all that you lament, God is with you. God will not abandon you. Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, laid down his life for you and offers you hope and peace. **Amen.**

Special Music: “Praise to the Lord” J. Neander arr. J. Raney

*Passing the Peace of Christ

Children’s Moment

Pastoral Prayer, Joys and Concerns

The Lord’s Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response

*Hymn: “Grace Alone” TFWS# 2162
(5-13 yr. olds are invited to Grace Chapel for Chapel Kids. Parents please escort your children & pick them up.)

Scriptures: Psalm 23 (NRSV) O.T. pp. 474-475
John 10: 11-18 (NRSV) N.T. pp. 97-98

Response to the Word:

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

Many: Thanks be to God!

The Word in Reflection: “The Good Shepherd” Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT’S PROMPTINGS

Invitation to Offering: – Discipleship Resources

Gracious Provider, we gather with hearts filled with gratitude for the love and light you've shown us. Your Word reminds us that true love is seen in the self-sacrifice of Christ. As we offer our tithes and offerings, we are reminded of the importance of generosity and stewardship in every aspect of our lives. May these gifts be a reflection of the love we have experienced in Christ and our commitment to steward them faithfully for the work of your kingdom. Use these offerings to bring justice, mercy, and hope to a world in need. In your holy name, we pray. **Amen.**